Trinity Public Utilities District MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING June 14, 2012

Location:

Trinity Public Utilities District Community Room

Weaverville, California

Board Present:

Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens (arrived at 2:07),

Keith Groves, Kelli Gant (arrived at 2:05)

Board Absent:

None

Others Present:

Paul Hauser, Julie Catanese, Elizabeth Johnson, Andy

Lethbridge, Karen Palmer, Kellie Ambrose, Amy Gittelsohn,

Richard Stiliha

1. President Morris called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda order

Director Groves motioned to approve the Agenda order. With a second from Director Ludden, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:

Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Keith Groves

Noes:

None

Absent:

Rose Owens, Kelli Gant

Abstain:

None

3. Consent Calendar

Director Ludden motioned to approve the Consent Calendar. Second by Director Groves, the Consent Calendar included:

- a. Approve Minutes of the Special Board Meeting May 22, 2012
- b. Approve Minutes of the Safety Meeting May 8, 2012
- c. Validate Bills of May, 2012
- d. Approve Financial Reports for April, 2012
- e. Award Bid 12-B3 Ground Level Vegetation Clearance and Removal
- f. Approve Task Order GIS 007 with Power Engineers

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:

Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Keith Groves

Noes:

None

Absent:

Rose Owens, Kelli Gant

Abstain:

None

4. Public Input

a. None

5. Action Items

a. <u>Items Pulled from Consent Calendar</u>

None

b. Adopt Proposed FY 12/13 Budget, Goals, and Five Year Financial Forecast

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Mr. Hauser stated that the District Website was displayed if the Board requested a demonstration.

Director Gant arrived at 2:05 p.m.

Mr. Hauser reminded the Board that the official water year designation for power costs is below average even though the Trinity Journal reported that for Trinity River Restoration the water year was normal.

Director Owens arrived at 2:07 p.m.

There was discussion regarding the difference between Rates and Surcharges and the reasons behind developing Surcharges that fluctuate. The Board suggested looking at the title of some of the Surcharges and potentially renaming them.

There was also discussion regarding the PA1 Surcharge.

After a discussion of the Budget, Director Ludden motioned to adopt the proposed FY 12/13 Budget, Goals, and Five Year Financial Forecast as presented. Seconded by Director Owens, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:

Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Kelli Gant,

Keith Groves

Noes:

None

Absent:

None

Abstain:

None

c. Approve the Response to the Trinity County Grand Jury

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. There was discussion and changes regarding a few of the responses that Mr. Hauser drafted for the Boards review.

Director Owens motioned to accept the response to the Grand Jury with the changes discussed. Seconded by Director Gant, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:

Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Kelli Gant,

Keith Groves

Noes:

None

Absent:

None

Abstain:

None

6. Discussion Items

a. Review Line Extensions Policy & Installment Payments for Line Extensions Policy

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that when the original Line Extension Policy was created, the District was attempting to collect 75% of the installation costs. Mr. Hauser suggested to the Board that the District lower that percentage to 65%, which would make it easier for potential customers to connect to our facilities.

After a discussion regarding the Installment Payments Policy the Board directed the General Manager to place this item on the July Agenda for approval.

To accommodate Legal Counsel the Board briefly went into Closed Session to discuss Item 10(a).

Amy Gittelsohn, Richard Stiliha, Julie Catanese, Andy Lethbridge, Kellie Ambrose, and Karen Palmer all departed at 3:40 p.m.

10. Closed Session

Director Gant motioned to go into Closed Session at 3:40 p.m., second by Director Ludden, the Board entered into Closed Session on the following:

a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9(a)

Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation

One Potential Case

McColm vs. PG&E, et al

Trinity County Superior court Case No. 10CV065

The Board came out of Closed Session and immediately reconvened in Open Session at 3:50 p.m. President Morris reported that the Board took no action.

Elizabeth Johnson departed at 3:50 p.m.

Julie Catanese, Andy Lethbridge, Kellie Ambrose, and Karen Palmer returned to the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

6. Discussion Items

b. <u>Draft Press Release Regarding Secretary Chu's Memo</u>

Mr. Hauser discussed the reasons for either a Press Release or a Letter to the Editor. President Morris also stated that at the NWPPA Conference he attended last month there was discussion about this same issue.

After a brief discussion the Board directed the General Manager to contact the Trinity Journal and inquire as to the best way to inform Trinity County residents of this extremely important information.

c. Location of July Board Meeting

Mr. Hauser asked the Board if they would like the July Board meeting to be held in Hayfork. President Morris stated that due to personal obligations he would not be able to attend a meeting out of town in July. The Board directed the General Manager to schedule the September Board Meeting in Hayfork.

7. Reports

a. Board Member Reports

None

b. Committee Reports

None

c. General Manager's Reports

• Lewiston Project

The Lewiston Project was reported on in the Report to the Board regarding the Budget

Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser reported to the Board that he will be meeting with Susan Stohr at the APPA conference in Seattle next week. They will be discussing establishing a template from other land exchanges that have been completed with the Forest Service.

Website Demonstration

The Website was reported on in the Report to the Board regarding the Budget.

Power Outages

Mr. Hauser reported that there was an incident on Forest Service property where someone purposely felled a tree into the power line in Hyampom. This incident was reported to the Forest Service.

Community Choice Aggregation

Mr. Hauser stated that there was nothing new to report as there have not been any meetings that he is aware of.

LAFCO Invoice

There was a brief discussion regarding the District still not receiving a response from LAFCO on projected budget figures. Mr. Hauser informed the Board that the Invoice is scheduled for payment with the payables at the end of the month.

8. Communications Received

a. Felix Yeung's E-mail concerning Secretary Chu's Memo

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that a staffer from Senator Feinstein's office had contacted him to obtain his opinion, as a small rural utility, on the Memo from Secretary Chu.

9. Meetings and/or Workshops

a. None

Andy Lethbridge, Julie Catanese, Kellie Ambrose, and Karen Palmer departed at 4:10 p.m.

10. Closed Session

Director Ludden, motioned to go back into Closed Session at 4:10 p.m., second by Director Gant, the Board entered into Closed Session on the following:

b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54957.6

Conference with Labor Negotiator

Agency Negotiator:

General Manager

Employee Organization:

Unrepresented Employees:

Line Superintendent

Budget Officer

Office Administrator

Assistant Office Administrator

The Board came out of Closed Session and immediately reconvened in Open Session at 4:25 p.m. President Morris reported that the Board voted to increase the Line Superintendent, Budget Officer, Office Administrator, and Assistant Office Administrator's salary by 3%. The Board also voted to amend the Line Superintendent, Budget Officer, Office Administrator, and Assistant Office Administrator's Employment Contracts to include a smart phone stipend of \$100.00 per month.

11. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Director Groves, second by Director Owens, passing unanimously, the Board adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Richard Morris, President

ATTEST:

Thomas J. Ludden, Clerk